# AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1.      (Currently amended) An <u>e-mail</u> address system, comprising:

means for monitoring information sent by a sender and asynchronously received at a public fee address associated with a<u>n e</u>-mail recipient<u>, wherein the information is unsolicited by the e-mail recipient</u>;

means for determining a fee for the information, wherein the fee is based upon a preferences record defined by the <u>e</u>-mail recipient;

means for collecting the fee from the sender into a first account;

means for forwarding the information received at the public fee address to a private <u>e-mail</u> address associated with the <u>e</u>-mail recipient; and

means for transferring the collected fee to a second account.

2.      (Original) The address system of claim 1, wherein the second account belongs to a third party.

3.      (Cancelled)

4.      (Original) The address system of claim 1, wherein the fees are escalating based upon number of usages.

5.      (Original) The address system of claim 1, wherein the fees are conditional.

6.      (Original) The address system of claim 1, wherein the fees are a combination of fixed, variable and conditional for different senders.

7.      (Original) The address system of claim 1 wherein the fee is waived for a sender.

8.      (Original) The address system of claim 1 wherein the fee is based upon the urgency of the information.

9.    (Original) The address system of claim 1 wherein the fees are selected from the group consisting of fixed, variable or conditional.

10.    (Original) The address system of claim 1 wherein the fee is based on the size of the information.

11.    (Original) The address system of claim 2 wherein the third party is a charity organization.

12.    (Original) The address system of claim 2 wherein the third party is a company.

13.    (Original) The address system of claim 2 wherein the third party is an individual.

14.    (Original) The address system of claim 2 wherein the third party is a firm.

15.    (Original) The address system of claim 1 wherein the fee varies for different senders.

16.    (Original) The address system of claim 10 wherein the size of the information is based on word count.

17.    (Original) The address system of claim 10 wherein the size of the information is based on number of bits.

18.    (Currently amended) The address system of claim 5, wherein the e-mail recipient elects to impose a fee.

19.    (Currently amended) An e-mail address system, comprising:
         means for monitoring information sent by a sender and asynchronously received at a public fee address associated with an e-mail recipient, wherein the information is unsolicited by the e-mail recipient;
         means for determining a fee for the information, wherein the fee is based upon a preferences record defined by the e-mail recipient and the fee is conditional;

means for collecting the fee from the sender; and

means for forwarding the information received at the public fee address to a private e-mail address associated with the e-mail recipient.

20.     (Currently amended) The address system of claim 19, wherein a the e-mail recipient elects to impose a charge.

21.     (Currently amended) The address system of claim 19, wherein the e-mail recipient receives a portion of the collected fees.

22.     (Currently amended) A method of providing an e-mail fee address system, comprising the steps of:

receiving information sent by a sender at a public fee address in a computer, wherein the public fee address is associated with an e-mail recipient, and wherein the information is unsolicited by the e-mail recipient;

determining a fee for the information, wherein the fee is based upon a preferences record defined by the e-mail recipient and the fee increases as information size increases;

collecting the fee from the sender; and

forwarding the information from the public fee address to a private e-mail address associated with the e-mail recipient.

23.     (Currently amended) The method of claim 22, wherein the mail information size is measured by word count.

24.     (Currently amended) The method of claim 22, wherein the mail information size is measured in bits.

25.     (Original) The method of claim 22 further comprising transferring the collected fees to a third party.

26.     (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein the third party is a charity.

27.     (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein the third party is a firm.

28.     (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein the third party is an individual.

29.     (Original) The method of claim 25 wherein the third party is a company.

30.     (Original) The method of claim 22 wherein the information is electronic mail.

31.     (Currently amended) A programmed computer for providing an e-mail fee address system, comprising:

a memory having at least one region for storing computer executable program code; and

a processor for executing the program code stored in memory, wherein the program code includes:

code to receive an e-mail sent by a sender to a public fee address associated with an e-mail recipient, wherein the e-mail is unsolicited by the e-mail recipient;

code to determine a fee for the e-mail, wherein the fee is based upon a preferences record defined by the e-mail recipient;

code to collect the fee from the sender into a first account;

code to forward the e-mail from the public fee address to a private e-mail address associated with the e-mail recipient; and

code to transfer the collected fee to a second account.

32.     (Original) The programmed computer of claim 31 wherein the second account belongs to a third party.

33.     (Cancelled)

34.     (Original) The programmed computer of claim 31, wherein the fees are escalating based upon number of usages.

35.     (Original) The programmed computer of claim 31, wherein the fees are conditional.

36.     (Original) The programmed computer of claim 31, wherein the fees are a combination of fixed, variable and conditional for different senders.

37.     (Original) The programmed computer of claim 31 wherein the fee is waived for a sender.

38.     (Currently amended) The programmed computer of claim 31, wherein the fee is based upon the urgency of the e-mail.

39.     (Original) The programmed computer of claim 31 wherein the fees are selected from the group consisting of fixed, variable or conditional.

40.     (Currently amended) The programmed computer of claim 31, wherein the fee is based on the size of the e-mail.

41.     (Original) The programmed computer of claim 32 wherein the third party is a charity organization.

42.     (Original) The programmed computer of claim 32 wherein the third party is a company.

43.     (Original) The programmed computer of claim 32 wherein the third party is an individual.

44.     (Original) The programmed computer of claim 32 wherein the third party is a firm.

45.     (Original) The programmed computer of claim 31 wherein the fee varies for different senders.

46.     (Currently amended) The programmed computer of claim 40, wherein the size of the e-mail is based on word count.

47.     (Currently amended) The programmed computer of claim 40, wherein the size of the e-mail is based on number of bits.

48.     (Currently amended) The programmed computer of claim 35, wherein the e-mail recipient elects to impose a fee.

49.     (Currently amended) Computer executable software code stored on a computer readable medium, the code for providing an e-mail fee address system, comprising:

        code to receive a communication sent by a sender to a public fee address associated with an e-mail recipient, wherein the communication is unsolicited by the e-mail recipient;

        code to determine a fee for the communication, wherein the fee is based upon a preferences record defined by the e-mail recipient;

        code to collect the fee; and

        code to forward the communication from the public fee address to a private e-mail address associated with the e-mail recipient.

50.     (Currently amended) A method of providing an e-mail fee address system, comprising the steps of:

        receiving an e-mail sent by a sender to a public fee address in a computer wherein the public fee address is associated with an e-mail recipient, and wherein the e-mail is unsolicited by the e-mail recipient;

        determining a fee for the e-mail, wherein the fee is based upon a preferences record defined by the e-mail recipient;

        collecting the fee from the sender into a first account;

        forwarding the e-mail from the public fee address to a private e-mail address associated with the e-mail recipient; and

        transferring the collected fee to a second account.

51.     (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein the second account belongs to a third party.

52.     (Cancelled)

53.     (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein the fees are escalating based upon number of usages.

54.     (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein the fees are conditional.

55.     (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein the fees are a combination of fixed, variable and conditional for different senders.

56.     (Original) The method of claim 50 wherein the fee is waived for a sender.

57.     (Currently amended) The method of claim 50, wherein the fee is based upon the urgency of the e-mail.

58.     (Original) The method of claim 50 wherein the fees are selected from the group consisting of fixed, variable or conditional.

59.     (Currently amended) The method of claim 50, wherein the fee is based on the size of the e-mail.

60.     (Original) The method of claim 51 wherein the third party is a charity organization.

61.     (Original) The method of claim 51 wherein the third party is a company.

62.     (Original) The method of claim 51 wherein the third party is an individual.

63.     (Original) The method of claim 51 wherein the third party is a firm.

64.     (Original) The method of claim 50 wherein the fee varies for different senders.

65.    (Currently amended) The method of claim 59, wherein the size of the e-mail is based on word count.

66.    (Currently amended) The method of claim 59, wherein the size of the e-mail is based on number of bits.

67.    (Currently amended) The method of claim 54, wherein the e-mail recipient elects to impose a fee.